

# GLOBALLINK



Giving  
Hope  
Today

TERRITORIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD MISSIONS DEPARTMENT IN CANADA AND BERMUDA

FALL 2018



New mothers learn how to weigh their babies at a Salvation Army maternal health workshop in Pakistan.

## DOES MY CHILD MEASURE UP?

By Marilyn Kershaw

Without a doubt, one of the scariest times in our lives is when we arrive home from the hospital with our newborn baby and consider the huge responsibility of caring for and raising this gift from God. Through every stage of development we measure progress against the norm. Are they eating enough and gaining the appropriate weight? Are they sleeping enough, sitting well without support, walking, talking? Amidst this stress, most Canadians know that we can pick up the phone and arrange to visit our doctor whenever we want and, for the most part, do this without financial risk. If we feel that our concerns are urgent, we make our way straight to the hospital for immediate attention.

But consider families in rural Africa. Kenneth's 10-month-old son died in his arms after becoming infected with malaria from a mosquito bite. His child's death came after Kenneth peddled 10 kilometres to the nearest medical clinic, and then another 10 kilometres to a hospital as the clinic didn't have the necessary medicine. Unfortunately, this is a frequent and devastating reality for many families living in rural communities in Africa and beyond. Hearing this story, we are deeply saddened and long to do something so that parents never have to see their child die of preventable diseases.

As parents, we yearn for a sense of community as we raise our children and it is a privilege to provide community to one another. With global communications

Continued on page 2





According to the Oxford Dictionary, the word “well-being” was first recorded in 1605 and refers to “a state characterized by health, happiness, and prosperity.” When we consider well-being, we often think of life in all its fullness (*John 10:10*) where community, environment, economics and spiritual life intertwine. Every individual, no matter where they live, desires to have the “good life” where food, water, shelter and employment are accessible.

In this issue of *Global Link* we explore how The Salvation Army is addressing Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG #3), *Good Health and Well-being*, through various programs that promote physical and spiritual health, security, education, belonging and nutrition. We see these pillars as foundational to well-being as evidenced in the ways that we are supporting men, women, boys and girls around the world.

We hope you enjoy reading the articles and learning more about how your support is positively impacting the lives of individuals beyond our borders. Thank you for your ongoing partnership and for investing in the lives of others.

Together, we are making a world of difference!

Lt-Colonel Brenda Murray  
World Missions Director

Continued from cover...

bringing ever-increasing connectivity, we *can* do something. We *can* support the international work of The Salvation Army, particularly in the areas of family health, which include mother and child health initiatives and children’s programs that provide basic needs for those who would otherwise be forgotten. Let’s work together to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable families and bring hope to communities around the world.



Your donations to our  
**Gifts of Hope program: ‘Hope Through Health’**  
and  
**Brighter Futures Children’s Sponsorship**  
are guaranteed to make a difference!  
For more information or to donate, please visit  
**[saworldmissions.ca](http://saworldmissions.ca)**

## THE FACE OF POVERTY

By Major Donna Barthau

The face of poverty is similar around the world, but the reasons behind that gaunt, haunted face differ significantly from region to region. In Africa, the largest contributing factors to poverty are large families, HIV/AIDS, climate challenges and lack of arable land. Families are smaller in Asia, but India’s huge population and caste system severely limit employment opportunities. In Kenya, one father told me, “I have only a tiny plot of land, and cannot divide it among all of my sons as my ancestors did. They have to do what they can for their future with education.”

**Brighter Futures Children’s Sponsorship** supports children’s homes, schools and after-school programs and provides for the basic needs of orphans and vulnerable children such as nutritious food, life-skills lessons, clothing, recreational equipment, and medicine. Life-skills lessons include instruction on hygiene, cooking, growing vegetables, caring for fish and chickens, computer literacy, crafts, resume writing, and interview preparation.

At home in a village on the central eastern coast of India, Sony often went hungry. Many times she missed classes as it was monsoon season, was too dangerous, or she was simply too tired to walk eight kilometres to school. A Salvation Army officer from a nearby corps met Sony and suggested to her parents that she apply to study at The Salvation Army Bapatla School where she could live with other girls on the school compound. Her application was successful and Sony now lives and studies at Bapatla.



Sony is now thriving as she regularly receives healthy meals, attends school, and has made new friends. She no longer goes hungry and doesn’t need to travel dangerous roads alone just to get an education. Sony is performing well in school and hopes to go to junior college and train as an English teacher. Sony would love to come back to The Salvation Army Bapatla School to help teach other girls like her who have also found their way from impoverished villages to this place of safety, well-being and hope.





# BUILDING BONDS IN COMMUNITIES

By Yamuna Kanagalingam



Our **Brighter Futures Children's Sponsorship** program is not only focused on meeting children's basic needs, but also on strengthening the bonds between families and communities. The Salvation Army's after-school programs in South America East are a prime example of how we are working toward this objective.

Concordia is the second most poverty-stricken city in Argentina. Many families struggle to provide their children with proper nutrition and schools are so overworked and under-resourced that they cannot give children the individual attention they need. After meeting with

teachers and families in the community, The Salvation Army set out to create a safe space where children and youth could gather after school and on weekends. Today, 30 children aged two to 17 attend the Nomeolvides (Forget Me Not) program, where trained teachers provide tutoring, as well as healthy meals and snacks.

Since Alexander, 10, started coming to the program to get help with his homework, his grades have improved. He now attends The Salvation Army church, where he enjoys learning scripture verses in Bible class. Alexander likes the extra help and tasty meals at Nomeolvides, but according to him, "the desserts are the best."

Once a month, each family is invited to participate in a family meeting with the program teachers and Salvation Army corps officer, where they can address their family dynamics and work to improve their relationships with one another. The parents are so grateful to our **Brighter Futures** sponsors who have helped to create a safe haven for their children.

Thank you for your generous donations which are helping to build strong relationships among vulnerable families and communities in Argentina and around the world.



## A GIFTS OF HOPE FUNDRAISER!

By Marilyn Kershaw

While I'm sure you've heard the phrase: "Nothing like counting sheep to put one to sleep," I bet you haven't heard of this one: "Nothing like counting goats to support sustainable community life in the developing world." But that's exactly what the employees at Attrell Toyota did to give back at their 2017 Christmas event.

John Attrell, President of Attrell Toyota, tasked his marketing manager, Daryl, to research the best place to "give goats" to people in need around the world. Daryl did his research and The Salvation Army's *Gifts of Hope* program rose to the top of the list due to our low administrative costs. With that acclaim, the "Give Goats at Christmas" campaign was launched.

"We had set up a table and had a visual representation of the goats so that our guests were able to physically see how far we were away from our goal. We also had one of our talented employees design a magnet to give to those who had donated. It honestly was such a fun campaign to organize, promote and execute for our company. Everyone absolutely loved it," says Hazel, Senior Appointment Coordinator and Administrator at Attrell Toyota.

John Attrell pledged that the company would match the guests' donations, which brought the campaign total to \$5,050, which is equal to 126 goats. "As a Christian, I love giving back to help in Kingdom work," says John. "We will be doing this again next year."



Next Christmas, the team hopes to raise enough funds for 200 goats.

Thank you to our partners at Attrell Toyota for entrusting The Salvation Army with their Christmas giving. This example of generosity in the business community is truly heartwarming.





# MEDICINE FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH By Marilyn Kershaw

Recently, a Salvation Army project officer wrote to us from Paraguay. “We would like to request your help once again, this time to provide medicine to vulnerable people, most of them children, living in communities visited by our Tekokatú Medical Clinic team,” she said. The Canada and Bermuda Territory is privileged to be able to respond immediately to requests such as this one through donations given to our **Gifts of Hope** program.

The medical team includes a doctor, a nurse, a social worker, and a Salvation Army officer. Once a month, the mobile clinic sets up shop in a different rural community, bringing vital treatment to those unable to visit medical facilities. One of the main requests they receive is for children’s deworming medicine, as the sanitary conditions and quality of water in these communities are poor.

In these communities and around the world, poverty creates unique health issues that can be life-threatening. Simple remedies provided by mobile clinics such as this one in Paraguay can make a real difference in the lives of families with little to no access to healthcare. The medicine provided to this program through donations given to **Gifts of Hope** program has helped 200 people. Thank you for your support!



## Brighter Futures

THE SALVATION ARMY CHILDREN'S SPONSORSHIP



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Life skills



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